

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 382

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of cardiovascular screening tests under the medicare program.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 12, 2003

Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. INOUE, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. JOHNSON, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. LINCOLN, and Mr. TALENT) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of cardiovascular screening tests under the medicare program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Medicare Cholesterol
5 Screening Coverage Act of 2003”.

6 **SEC. 2. COVERAGE OF CARDIOVASCULAR SCREENING**
7 **TESTS.**

8 (a) COVERAGE.—Section 1861(s)(2) of the Social Se-
9 curity Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(s)(2)) is amended—

1 (1) in subparagraph (U), by striking “and” at
2 the end;

3 (2) in subparagraph (V)(iii), by inserting “and”
4 at the end; and

5 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
6 paragraph:

7 “(W) cardiovascular screening tests (as de-
8 fined in subsection (ww)(1));”.

9 (b) SERVICES DESCRIBED.—Section 1861 of the So-
10 cial Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x) is amended by adding
11 at the end the following new subsection:

12 “Cardiovascular Screening Tests

13 “(ww)(1) The term ‘cardiovascular screening tests’
14 means the following diagnostic tests for the early detection
15 of cardiovascular disease:

16 “(A) Tests for the determination of cholesterol
17 levels.

18 “(B) Tests for the determination of lipid levels
19 of the blood.

20 “(C) Such other tests for cardiovascular disease
21 as the Secretary may approve.

22 “(2)(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), the Secretary
23 shall establish standards, in consultation with appropriate
24 organizations, regarding the frequency and type of cardio-
25 vascular screening tests.

1 “(B) With respect to the frequency of cardiovascular
 2 screening tests approved by the Secretary under subpara-
 3 graph (A), in no case may the frequency of such tests be
 4 more often than once every 2 years.”.

5 (c) FREQUENCY.—Section 1862(a)(1) of the Social
 6 Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395y(a)(1)) is amended—

7 (1) by striking “and” at the end of subpara-
 8 graph (H);

9 (2) by striking the semicolon at the end of sub-
 10 paragraph (I) and inserting “, and”; and

11 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
 12 paragraph:

13 “(J) in the case of a cardiovascular screening
 14 test (as defined in section 1861(ww)(1)), which is
 15 performed more frequently than is covered under
 16 section 1861(ww)(2).”.

17 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
 18 this section shall apply to tests furnished on or after Janu-
 19 ary 1, 2004.

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